



OFFICE OF THE
STUDENT
ADVOCATE

BULLYING QUICKSHEET

THINGS TO KNOW

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WHAT IS BULLYING?

- Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior that causes significant harm to the target and involves a real or perceived power imbalance.
- Bullying may be based on, but is not limited to, a specific personal characteristic such as race, gender, national origin, color, sexual orientation, personal appearance, disability, gender identity or expression, or familial status.

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YOUTH BULLYING PREVENTION ACT OF 2012

- Signed into law on June 22, 2012
- All D.C. public and public charter schools as well as DC youth agencies must have a policy.
- Created the Youth Bullying Prevention Task Force, comprised of District government agencies, teachers, school administrators, parents, mental health professionals, and more.

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TYPES OF BULLYING

Verbal

ex. teasing, name calling, taunting.

Physical

ex. hitting, kicking, pushing.

Social

ex. Purposefully excluding someone, spreading rumors about someone.

Electronic

ex. mean or threatening text sent through text, email or social media.

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BULLYING PREVENTION POLICY

All schools, DC youth-serving agencies and non-profit organizations are required to have a bullying prevention policy.

This bullying prevention policy must include:

Definition, Consequences and flexibility, Reporting, Investigation & Appeals.

More info on the Bullying Prevention Policy can be found here:

<https://ohr.dc.gov/bullyingprevention/policy>.

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USEFUL CONTACTS

All schools have a designated point of contact. Find yours at:

<https://ohr.dc.gov/page/knowyourpolicy>.

HELPFUL TIP:

Provide support to youth who are bullied or who bully others, because both can lead to serious and long-lasting problems.

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USEFUL RESOURCES

The Office of Human Rights, Bullying Prevention page has helpful resources such as tips, more information about the Bullying Prevention Act, and policies about bullying.

Visit their website at

<https://ohr.dc.gov/page/bullyingprevention>.

Phone: (202) 741-4692
Email: student.advocate@dc.gov
Web: www.studentadvocate.dc.gov
Twitter: @DC_Advocate